

PATENT  
Docket No. 524412000200

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Ruth M. Vallejo

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of:

Lee A. BULLA, Jr.,  
and Mehmet CANDAS

Serial No.: 09/696,801

Filing Date: 25 October 2000

For: GENE MINING SYSTEM AND  
METHOD

Examiner: Lori A. Clow

Group Art Unit: 1631

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action herein, mailed 26 August 2003, time for response to which was set to expire 26 November 2003. All pending claims were rejected; the rejection is non-final. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection, and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

sd-170760

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**FROM:** Kate H. Murashige**DATE:** November 5, 2003

Number of pages with cover page: 12

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**Comments:**

US Application No. 09/696,801

Our reference: 524412000200

Examiner Clow:

Here is a draft response for your consideration. Looking forward to meeting with you on Friday, November 7th at 10:30 AM. Dr. Lee Bulla, one of the inventors, will also be coming. Thank you.

*in review  
initials  
10/5/03*

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sd-171228